IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application

Paul Alexander DE VRIES

Application No.: (US National Stage of PCT/EP2005/001772)

Filed: September 8, 2006

For: METHOD FOR THE PURIFICATION OF A MOLTEN METAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as

follows: